Free school meal provision for 2023/24 – Update noted.

5 There was submitted and noted a report by the Executive Director of Education Services regarding the progress made for the rollout of free school meals for Primary 6 and 7 pupils and other initiatives around the free school meal provision, advising that

(1) currently all pupils in primary 1 to 5 and special schools were offered free school meals during term-time, and that above primary 5 were eligible for free school meals from 1st April 2023 if their parents or guardians were in receipt of certain benefits:

(2) Education Services had received revenue funding of £2.208m as part of the 2023/24 budget settlement in respect of this initiative;

(3) on 10th May 2023 notification had been received that Glasgow would be allocated £4.050m as part of the Scottish Government Budget for 2023/24 towards the implementation of free school meal holiday support for eligible children in primary, secondary and special schools during 2023/24 financial year;

(4) the Scottish Government had also indicated that the rollout of free school meals entitlement would be initially to those children whose parent/guardian was in receipt of the Scottish Child Payment, in advance of Universal Entitlement being rolled out for Primary 6 and 7; and

(5) to date, no formal notification of the funding for either initiative detailed above had been received.